FIG. 1

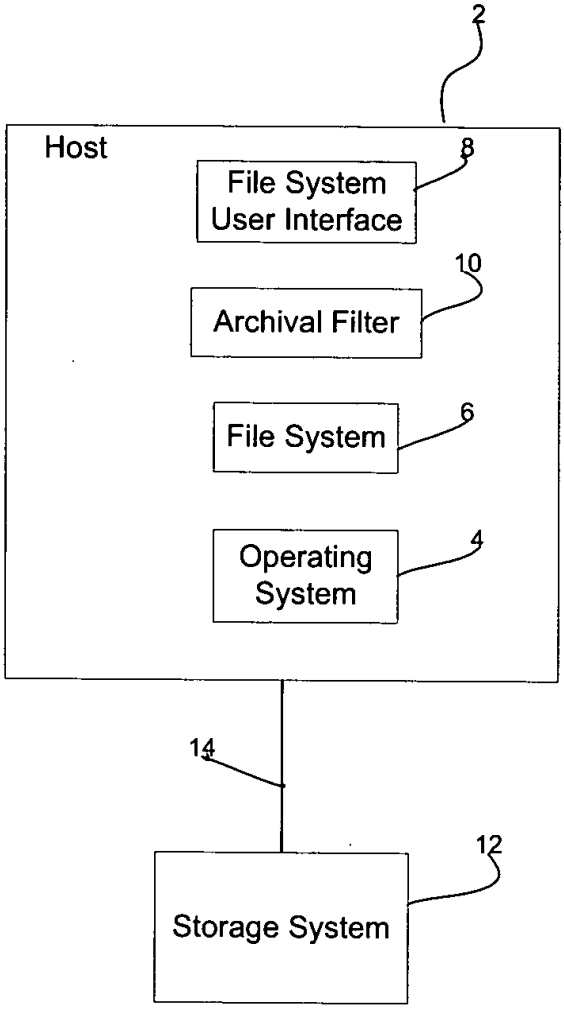

2
Host
8
File System User Interface
10
Archival Filter
6
File System
4
Operating System
14
12
Storage System

FIG. 2

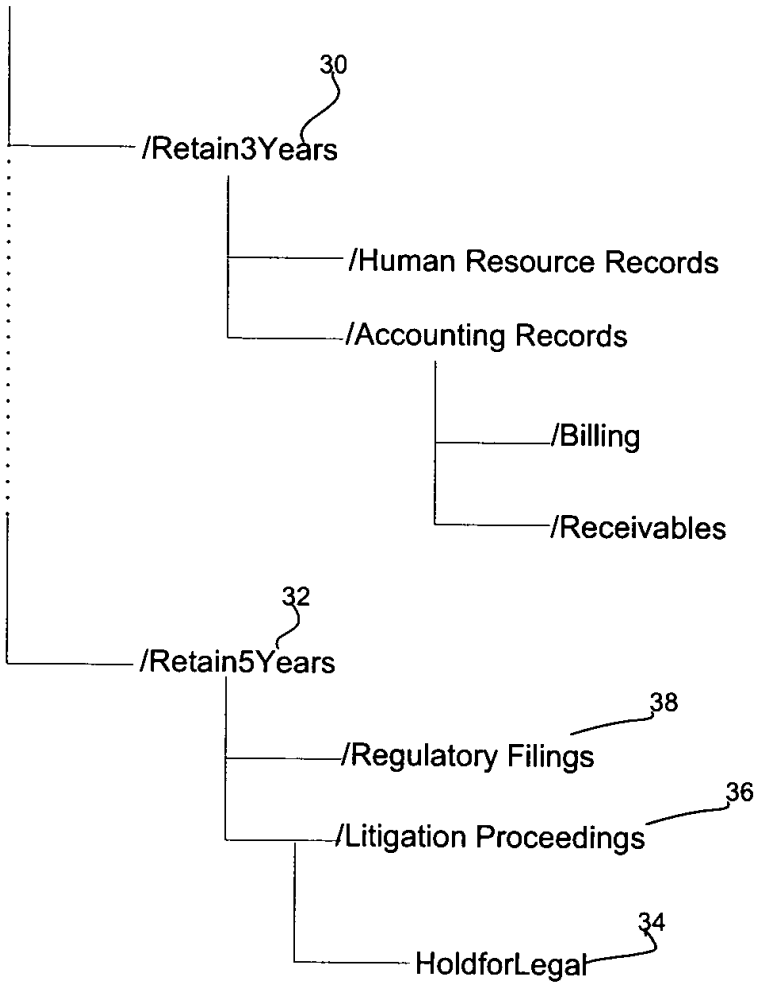

30
/Retain3Years
/Human Resource Records
/Accounting Records
/Billing
/Receivables
32
/Retain5Years
38
/Regulatory Filings
36
/Litigation Proceedings
34
HoldforLegal

FIG. 3

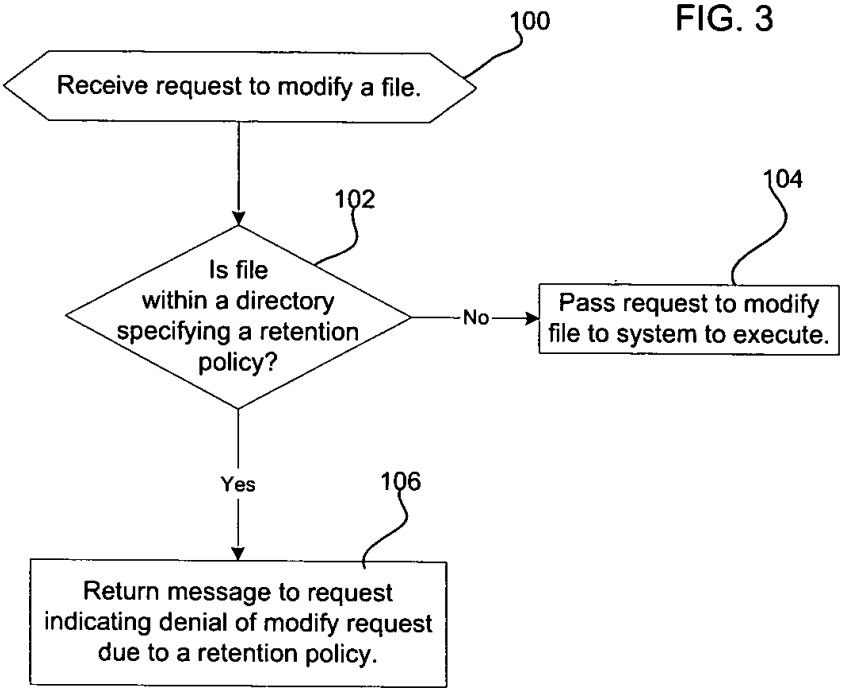

100
Receive request to modify a file.
102
Is file within a directory specifying a retention policy?
No
104
Pass request to modify file to system to execute.
Yes
106
Return message to request indicating denial of modify request due to a retention policy.

FIG. 4

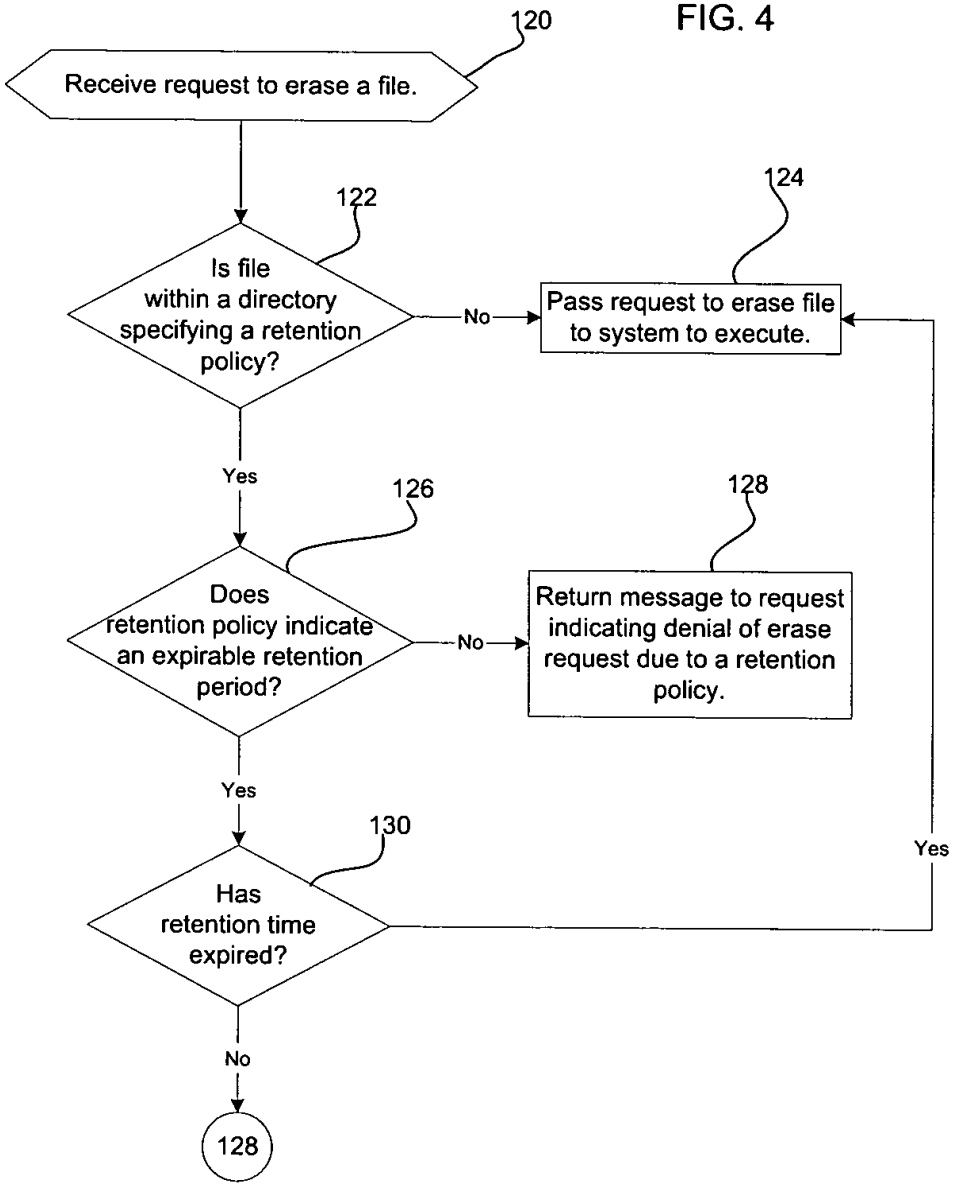

120
Receive request to erase a file.
122
Is file within a directory specifying a retention policy?
No
124
Pass request to erase file to system to execute.
Yes
126
Does retention policy indicate an expirable retention period?
No
128
Return message to request indicating denial of erase request due to a retention policy.
Yes
130
Has retention time expired?
Yes
No
128

FIG. 5

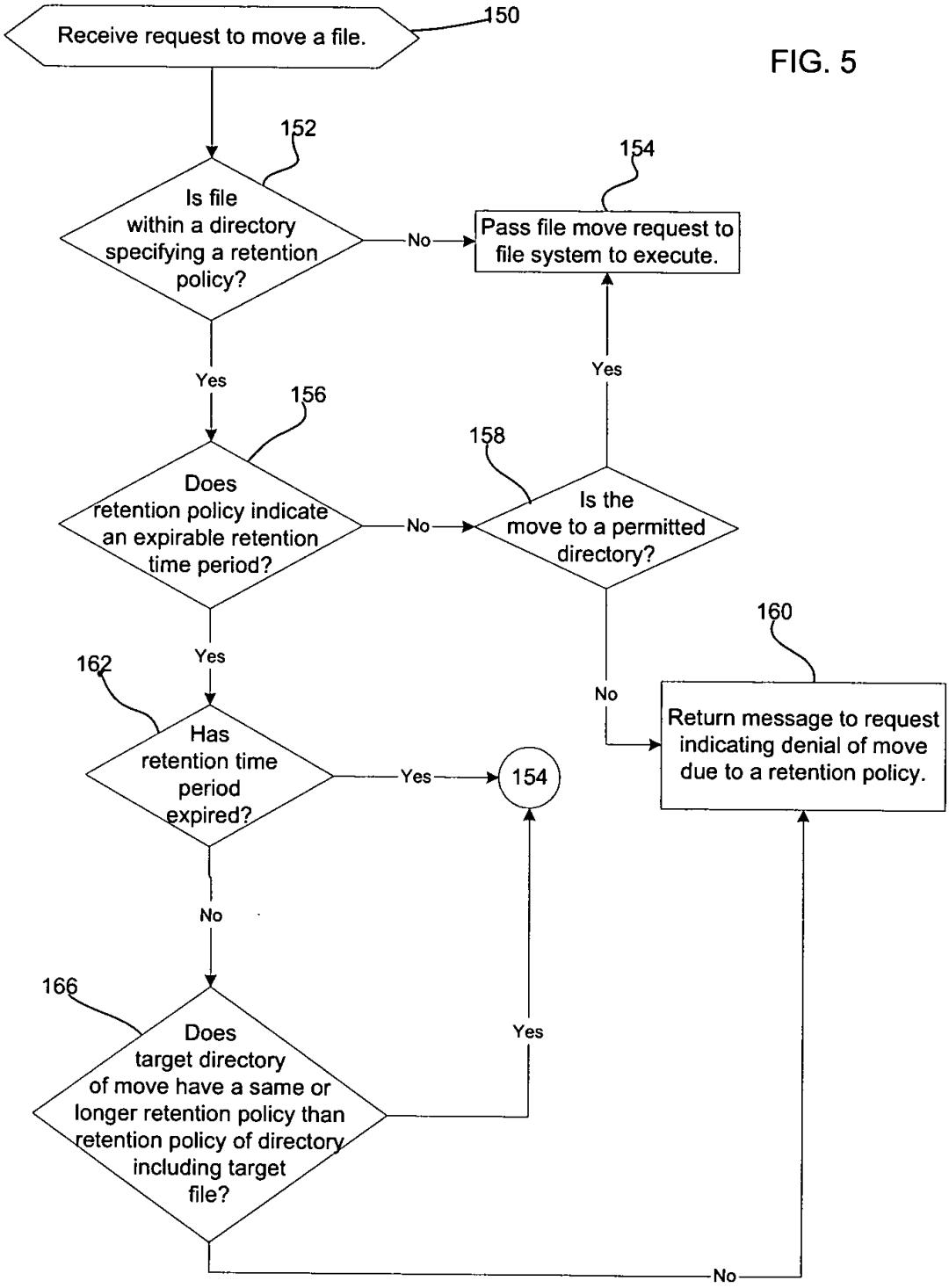
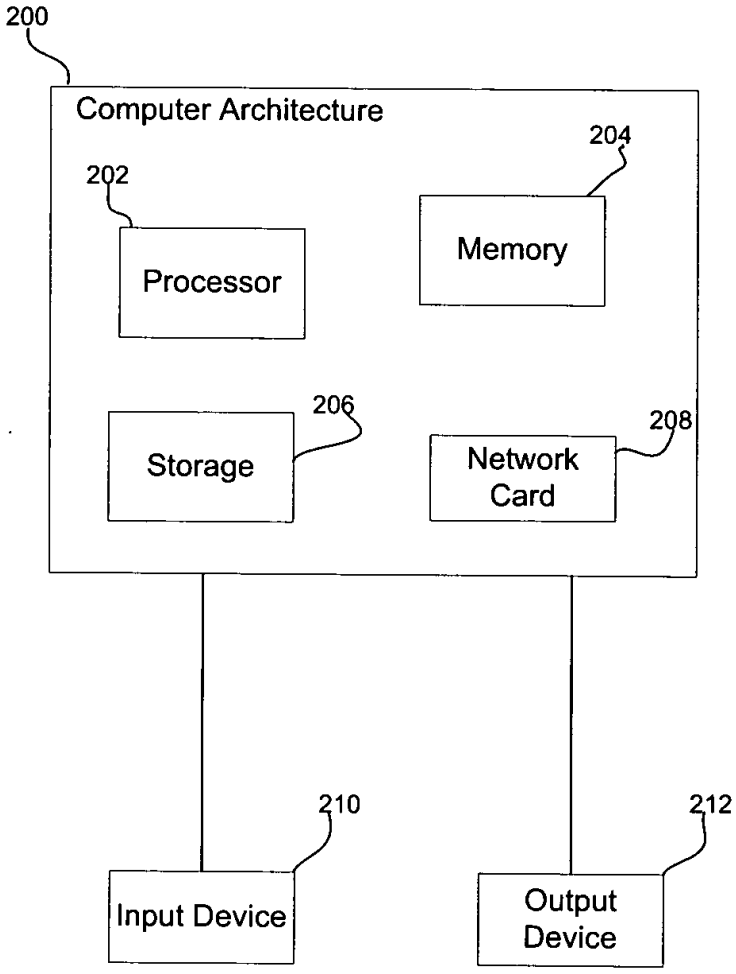

Receive request to move a file.
150
Is file within a directory specifying a retention policy?
152
No
Pass file move request to file system to execute.
154
Yes
Yes
Does retention policy indicate an expirable retention time period?
156
No
Is the move to a permitted directory?
158
Yes
No
Return message to request indicating denial of move due to a retention policy.
160
Has retention time period expired?
162
Yes
154
No
Does target directory of move have a same or longer retention policy than retention policy of directory including target file?
166
Yes
No

FIG. 6


200
Computer Architecture
202
Processor
204
Memory
206
Storage
208
Network Card
210
Input Device
212
Output Device